

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE  
ASIAN CITRUS PSYLLID QUARANTINE IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY**

**Q – Why is a quarantine for Asian citrus psyllid necessary?**

A – The quarantine is preventive, designed to try to keep the pest away from citrus-producing regions in northern San Diego County and beyond.

**Q – How serious is this? What is at risk?**

A – California has a \$1.1 billion citrus industry, second in size only to Florida. If the Asian citrus psyllid begins to transmit the disease huanglongbing, or citrus greening, the entire industry could be at risk.

**Q – If the pest and disease become established in California, how much economic damage would occur?**

A – A CDFA analysis based on Florida's experience with the pest and disease suggests it could cost \$224 million annually, 20 percent of total production.

**Q – What does this do to citrus trees?**

A – Once the pest starts to spread huanglongbing, infected trees decline in health, produce inedible fruit, and eventually die. There is no cure for the disease. Note – huanglongbing has not been detected in California.

**Q – Is it ok to eat citrus fruit?**

A – There has been no damage or harm to California citrus and no change to quality.

**Q – Will there be a shortage of citrus?**

A – The quarantine currently does not include citrus-producing regions, so there should be no impact to citrus supply.

**Q – Will cut flower producers be impacted by the quarantine?**

A – Most cut flower producers are outside the quarantine zone and, of those within, only the ones utilizing *Murraya* will be impacted. *Murraya* is a host plant.

**Q – How many host plants are there?**

A – 56. Citrus and closely related plants.

**Q – What can people do to help?**

A – CDFA is asking people within the quarantine area to consume home-grown citrus fruit at home and to refrain from transporting home-grown citrus or citrus plants out of the area.